REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5-7, 11, 15, 16, 21, 25 and 26 are currently amended. Claims 1, 11 and 21 are independent.

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-31 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claims the subject matter which applicant regards as their invention. Applicant has amended Claims 1, 5-7, 11, 15, 16, 21, 25 and 26 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection has been traversed as to the independent claims and all claims depending from them, and that the application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss remaining issues, if there are any.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this and concurrent replies to charge payment (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 50-2298 for any additional fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

2/18/2001

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